

**IN THE CLAIMS:**

Please re-write the claims to read as follows:

Please cancel claims 10 and 12-15 without prejudice.

1 1. (Original): A computer, the computer to aid in managing a computer network, com-  
2 prising:  
3 a distributor that receives a message from an entity that detects an anomaly on a  
4 network device;  
5 a filtering device, for use by the distributor, tests a value of an argument contained  
6 in the message using a filtering expression that is created at run time; and,  
7 a transmitting device for transmitting the message if a result of the filtering ex-  
8 pression is true.

1 2. (Original): The apparatus of claim 1 further comprising:  
2 the distributor compiles each filtering device, and the filtering device is a filtering  
3 program, and the filtering program is programmed in a programming language that can  
4 be compiled.

1 3. (Original): The apparatus of claim 2 further comprising:  
2 the distributor dynamically loads the compiled filtering program before executing  
3 the filtering expression in the filtering program.

1 4. (Original): The apparatus of claim 2 further comprising:

2 the filtering program includes a test implemented in a Boolean statement.

1 5. (Original): The apparatus as in claim 2 further comprising:

2 the filtering program includes a test implemented in a SQL statement.

1 6. (Original): The apparatus of claim 2 further comprising:

2 the filtering program includes a programming expression that performs queries on  
3 at least one individual message.

1 7. (Original): The apparatus of claim 2 further comprising:

2 the filtering program includes a programming expression that performs queries on  
3 a group of messages.

1 8. (Original): A computer, the computer to aid in managing a distributed computer net-  
2 work, comprising:

3 a distributor that receives a message from a network device, the message con-  
4 taining a value of an argument, the distributor testing the value of the argument in accor-  
5 dance with a filtering expression to distribute the message if a result of the filtering ex-  
6 pression is true; and

7 a filtering device that creates the filtering expression at run time.

1 9. (Original): A computer, the computer connected in a distributed computer network,  
2 comprising:

3 a distributor for receiving at least one message that indicates an anomaly on a  
4 network device;

5 means for compiling a filtering program that is associated with the at least one  
6 message;

7 a filtering device for use by the distributor tests a value of an argument contained  
8 in the at least one message, using a filtering program that is created at run time; and,

9 means for distributing the message if a result of the filtering program is true.

1 10. (Canceled)

1 11. (Original): A computer, the computer connected into a computer network, compris-  
2 ing:

3 a distributor software application on said computer for receiving at least one mes-  
4 sage that indicates an anomaly on a network device;

5 a compiler to compile a filtering program that is associated with the at least one  
6 message;

7 a filtering device for use by the distributor to test a value of an argument con-  
8 tained in the message, wherein the filtering program is created at run time; and

9 a transmitting device to transmit the message if a result of the filtering program is  
10 true.

1 12-15. (Canceled)

1 16. (Original): A method for operating a computer, comprising:

2 receiving a message into a distributor, the distributor receiving state messages  
3 from producers and transmitting the state messages to the appropriate network consumer,  
4 the message indicating an anomaly on a network device;

5 filtering the message by a filtering program that contains a filtering expression for  
6 testing a value of an argument contained in the message, and the filtering expression is  
7 created at run time; and

8 transmitting the message through a transmitting device if a result of the filtering  
9 expression is true.

1 17. (Original): A method for operating a computer, the computer connected into a com-  
2 puter network, comprising:

3 receiving a message into a distributor software application, said message indicat-  
4 ing an anomaly on a network device;

5 filtering the message by a filtering program that contains a filtering expression for  
6 testing a value of an argument contained in the message, and the filtering expression is  
7 created at run time; and,

8 transmitting the message through a transmitting device if a result of the filtering  
9 expression is true.

1 18. (Currently Amended): A node having a processor for carrying out the method ac-  
2 cording to ~~claim 12 or claim 16 or claim 17 of,~~

3 receiving a message into a distributor software application, said message  
4 indicating an anomaly on a network device;

5 filtering the message by a filtering program that contains a filtering ex-  
6 pression for testing a value of an argument contained in the message, and the fil-  
7 tering expression is created at run time; and,

8                   transmitting the message through a transmitting device if a result of the  
9                   filtering expression is true.

1   19. (Currently Amended): A computer network, comprising:

2                   two or more computers, at least one of the two or more computers~~computer, the~~  
3   ~~computer~~ connected into the network having, as in claim 1 or claim 8 or claim 9 or claim  
4   ~~10 or claim 11~~

5                   a distributor that receives a message from an entity that detects an anom-  
6                   aly on a network device;

7                   a filtering device, for use by the distributor, tests a value of an argument  
8                   contained in the message using a filtering expression that is created at run time;  
9                   and,

10                   a transmitting device for transmitting the message if a result of the filter-  
11                   ing expression is true.

1   20. (Currently Amended): A computer-readable media, comprising:

2                   instructions written on the computer readable media, the instructions for execut-  
3   ing on a computer for the practice of the method of ~~claim 12 or claim 16 or claim 17~~

4                   receiving a message into a distributor software application, said message  
5                   indicating an anomaly on a network device;

6                   filtering the message by a filtering program that contains a filtering ex-  
7                   pression for testing a value of an argument contained in the message, and the fil-  
8                   tering expression is created at run time; and,

9                   transmitting the message through a transmitting device if a result of the  
10                   filtering expression is true.

1 21. (Currently Amended): Electromagnetic signals travelling over a computer network,  
2 comprising:

3 the electromagnetic signals carrying instructions for executing on a computer for  
4 the practice of the method of ~~claim 12 or claim 16 or claim 17~~

5 receiving a message into a distributor software application, said message  
6 indicating an anomaly on a network device;

7 filtering the message by a filtering program that contains a filtering ex-  
8 pression for testing a value of an argument contained in the message, and the fil-  
9 tering expression is created at run time; and,

10 transmitting the message through a transmitting device if a result of the  
11 filtering expression is true.

Please insert the following new claims 22 *et seq.*:

- 1   22. (New) A method for operating a computer, comprising:  
2       receiving a message that an anomaly has been detected on a network device;  
3       testing a value of an argument contained in the message using a filtering expres-  
4       sion created at run time; and  
5       transmitting the message in response to a specified result of the filtering expres-  
6       sion.
- 1   23. (New) A computer, comprising:  
2       means for receiving a message that an anomaly has been detected on a network  
3       device;  
4       means for testing a value of an argument contained in the message using a filter-  
5       ing expression created at run time; and  
6       means for transmitting the message in response to a specified result of the filter-  
7       ing expression.
- 1   24. (New) A computer readable media, comprising: the computer readable media con-  
2       taining instructions for execution in a processor for the practice of the method of,  
3       receiving a message that an anomaly has been detected on a network device;  
4       testing a value of an argument contained in the message using a filtering expres-  
5       sion created at run time; and  
6       transmitting the message in response to a specified result of the filtering expres-  
7       sion.

- 1 25. (New) Electromagnetic signals propagating on a computer network, comprising: the  
2 electromagnetic signals carrying instructions for execution in a processor for the practice  
3 of the method of,
- 4 receiving a message that an anomaly has been detected on a network device;
- 5 testing a value of an argument contained in the message using a filtering expres-  
6 sion created at run time; and
- 7 transmitting the message in response to a specified result of the filtering expres-  
8 sion.